CRUTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify that this Response is being deposited as First Class Mail this date with the United States Postal Service

in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: 2/27/04

Signature of Person Depositing as First Class Mad

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

- PATENT -

Applicants:

Gerald W. Back et al.

Docket No.:

31844.0700

Serial No.:

09/921,327

Examiner:

David B. Thomas

Filing Date:

August 2, 2001

Art Unit:

3723

Title:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROBE TIP CLEANING AND

SHAPING PAD

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED

MAR 1 0 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Commissioner:

In response to the Office Action dated October 28, 2003, the period of response for which is hereby extended by one month to February 28, 2004, please consider the following remarks:

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.